

FAUNA RESCUE  
WHITSUNDAYS



# NEWSLETTER 60 OCTOBER 2011

**Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc.**

**P.O. Box 806, Cannonvale 4802**

**Hotline : 07 4947 3389 – ABN 60 931 156 282**

## POSITIONS VACANT

From humble beginnings FRW has grown to have a membership of nearly 100 and we help more and more animals each year. To operate our rescue hotline, school & community education programs and fundraising activities requires a great deal of commitment and time from our volunteers. With Christmas approaching we are also operating extra fundraising activities.

Our hardworking volunteers could use some extra help, especially with our extra Xmas fundraising activities (see ad on page 11). Do you have some spare time? Below are some of the other positions FRW has available and other ideas on what you could do to help.

**POSITION :** Hotline Coordinator

**DESCRIPTION :** Coordinating hotline operators and organising rosters, no experience required, good organisational skills a benefit, work from home with hours to suit your lifestyle

**POSITION :** Hotline Operators

**DESCRIPTION :** Answering 24hr hotline, no experience required, work from home with flexible hours (you could answer for an hour, ½ day), good listening skills an advantage

**POSITION :** Fundraising and Events Coordinator

**DESCRIPTION :** Friendly, outgoing person wanted to coordinate fundraising and events to help promote FRW. No experience required but good organisational skills useful.

**POSITION :** Animal Records Officer

**DESCRIPTION :** Person wanted to enter records into database - keep up to date with info on the latest rescues and how animals in care are progressing. Some computer experience required, work your own hours.

**REWARDS :** \$0.00 per hour, helping to save animals lives, a great work environment & workmates and immense job satisfaction.

### OTHER WAYS TO HELP FRW

HELP WITH SAUSAGE SIZZLES/HOT DOG STALLS OR MANNING DISPLAYS AT SHOWS/EXPOS, HELP WITH RESCUES OR RELEASE SITES, DONATE UNWANTED ITEMS AS PRIZES OR FOR USE TO CARE FOR ANIMALS, HELP A CARER WITH HOUSING MAINTENANCE ETC, SEW POUCHES OR MAKE OTHER HOUSING, USE YOUR EXISTING TALENTS AND SKILLS TO HELP FRW IN SOME OTHER WAY

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*Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc.*

# THANK YOU PROSERPINE HIGH SCHOOL

*Photos : Barb Adamson*

All our carers are volunteers and do it because they love animals. Most of the expenses incurred are paid by the member themselves with FRW providing as much assistance as possible. Housing is one of the most important aspects for animals in care and its care and maintenance can be time consuming and often costly.

FRW would like to thank the Proserpine High School for supplying us with beautifully crafted possum boxes on regular basis. We would also like to send a special thank you to the special education unit who have just given us a large bag of pouches, which they have sewn for our babies in care.



## BLOOMSBURY SCHOOL

Barb A. and Lorelle recently gave a talk at Bloomsbury School. As a result of the great job they did all the children have promised to help our wildlife and protect them (and find an adult and call the hotline if they find one).

This sort of dedication from our youth will help preserve and help our fauna in the coming years. To show our appreciation of their help it was decided at a recent Committee Meeting to designate Bloomsbury School as a "Wildlife Carer School". Thanks to all the staff and students of Bloomsbury School.

## FRW WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO HELP US AND WHO HAVE MADE DONATIONS INCLUDING

COLES CANNONVALE

WHITSUNDAY LIONS

QUEENSLAND PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE/DERM

JAN JARRATT'S OFFICE

WHITSUNDAYS CROCODILE SAFARIS

**"SUPPORT THOSE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED US"**



Thank you : **JAN JARRATT'S OFFICE** for the printing of hard copies and to **QPWS/DERM** for the use of their offices for our meetings, workshops and other activities.

## FRW STORIES AND PHOTOS WANTED

FRW is in the process of publishing a book for sale and designing our own FRW Xmas cards. We are looking for photos and short stories about animals which may be suitable for either project or the newsletter. If you can help please contact either myself [frwsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:frwsecretary@gmail.com) or one of your committee members.

# MONITORING OUR SHORE BIRDS

**INTERESTING FACT : Masked lapwings (spur wing plovers) will pretend they have a broken wing to draw a predator away from their nest!**

## The defiant plover - Understanding the fate of our ground-nesting birds

A number of Australia's birds lay nests on the ground which makes them particularly vulnerable. Many ducks, quail, bustards, shorebirds and terns are ground nesting birds. Commonly, nests are simple scrapes in the ground that make a shallow depression, enough to keep the eggs from rolling away. Some nests are lined with bits of vegetation, shell fragments or feathers for insulation.

Ground nesting birds rely on the camouflage of their eggs for protection from predators and often the chicks will be highly cryptic for this purpose too. The actual colour generally corresponds to the substrate on which the eggs are laid. For this reason, a potential nesting bird should never be approached as eggs are highly cryptic and difficult to see even if within meters of the nest.

Australia has a number of ground-nesting bird species, including non-migratory shorebirds. The habitats these birds create their nests in are diverse, from coasts and beaches (Pied Oystercatchers, Beach Stone-curlew), wooded areas (Bush Stone-curlew), agricultural areas, urban parklands and even backyards (Masked Lapwings, formerly known as the Spur-winged Plover).

Nesting is a critical period in a birds lifecycle and fledging chicks are paramount to a species conservation. However, ground-nesting and beach-nesting birds face a variety of threats from habitat modification, disturbance from human-related activities and predators such as wild dogs, foxes and even native predators such as crows. What is unclear is whether or not nests and eggs are surviving and hatching chicks. If they are failing, what is happening to these eggs?

Pioneer Catchment & Landcare Group (PCL) has been delivering the Welcome to Waders project since 2010. PCL is working with community members to find nests from Masked Lapwings, Bush Stone-curlews and Beach Stone-curlew nests to monitor their success and document any potential predator's effect on their nesting efforts.

### What do we do when we find a nest?

Each nest is monitored 24-hours a day using a motion-detecting remote camera. The birds are not impacted and continue incubating the eggs. These cameras enable us to understand what happens to the nest, without disturbing the birds.

These birds are busy getting ready or nesting NOW and we want to hear about it so we (or you) can begin monitoring them. Do you know where a Masked Lapwing, Bush Stone-curlew or Beach Stone-curlew nest is? If so, please let PCL know.

Anyone interested in helping with the project or if wanting more information please contact PCL on 4944 1979.



Written By: Hayley Glover  
Title: Regional Landcare Facilitator  
Organisation: Reef Catchments (MWI)

Ground nesting birds are particularly vulnerable to predators. *Images PCL*



**INTERESTING FACTS : green tree frogs scream when they are in danger and can live for up to 16 years in captivity**

# **CARERS DESPERATELY NEEDED (AND A MACROPOD SLO)**

## **WHAT IS A MACROPOD?**

**Kangaroos (including Rat and Tree Kangaroos), wallabies, bettongs, potaroos and pademelons are all macropods – A SLO IS A SPECIES LIAISON OFFICER**

Do you find you have a lot of spare time? Kids left home and suddenly the house seems too big for you? Retired? Looking for a new interest? FRW is desperately in need of carers at the moment for all species, but most especially for macropods and birds. We are also looking for a new SLO for Macropods with the sad news that Wendy will be moving interstate and be unable to continue in the position. I'm sure that many members have considered caring since joining FRW as you don't become a member of an organisation such as this unless you love animals.

Now is a great time to start with a large amount of animals coming into care due to the weather conditions and FRW having recently received a grant to help assist new and existing carers with housing, reference information, training and the basic supplies needed for caring at no cost. We hope this grant will not only encourage new carers but also improve the support services we offer both new and existing carers.

The only qualification you need to start caring is a LOVE of animals. What it is like to care for wildlife? "You know those days when things are going so well (or you've just had some great news) and, no matter how hard you try, you keep feeling your face break into a silly grin or find yourself singing happily – that's how caring makes me feel – I feel privileged to have been given the opportunity to do this." Is a quote from one of our carers. Caring can be overwhelming, exciting, extremely rewarding and frustrating but is worth the effort when you see a healthy animal return to where it belongs.

If you have thought about caring but are unsure of what is involved please read Lucia's story "A Special Visit" which is about one of Agile Wallabies FRW has successfully rehabilitated and released. Hopefully it will give you bit of an idea of what it is like to care and encourage you to offer your help. Our native wildlife need assistance – can you help a wallaby like Lucia?

## **A SPECIAL VISIT**

It was late afternoon when Tommy (my son) and I arrived at my foster mum Barb's to find a few of the other wallabies from the area were already there grazing. I always take my joeys back to meet Barb when they are old enough and Tommy was 6 ½ months now and had been waiting for nearly a month to meet her. I was 5 now and it had been 4 years since I lived here. In the past years I had brought back my three previous joeys to meet my foster mum (I wanted Barb to know that by helping me she had also ensured that my children had their own chance at life). Barb was feeding 2 joeys while another 5 ran riot around her. She looked up at our arrival and smiled as she saw Tommy beside me.

Tommy captured my attention by tugging on my paw and jumping up and down on the spot in excitement. "Is that her? (Barb is a bit of a legend in the wallaby community in our area and Tommy had been dying to meet her). Seeing Barb had her hands full feeding I gave in to Tommy's repeated demands to hear more about my life here (stories he had heard many times before). "Why did you come to live here? Was the latest in a string of never ending questions.

The question took me back in time. I was only five months old when my mother died in a car accident. I hid in her pouch for about a day and a half but when she still wouldn't wake up the hunger pains in my belly and the cold that had seeped into my bones forced me out of the safety of her pouch. I hopped off into the long grass beside the road terrified, tired, weak and starving with no idea of what to do. A man pulled up near mum and after looking at her he started searching around her. Luckily for me he knew to look for a joey that might have hopped away.

**TO SEE A WILD BABY WOMBATS FIRST STEPS CHECK THIS LINK**

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2011-10-09/camera-spies-endangered-baby-wombat/3415342>



# A SPECIAL VISIT *cont'd*

I curled in a little ball, nervously sucking my paws, pretending I was at the bottom of mum's pouch but he found me anyway and gently tucked me under his jumper against his chest. The vibrations in his chest as he spoke to the FRW hotline were strangely comforting and as his body heat penetrated my freezing body and warmed me up I drifted off to sleep. The man kept me warm and didn't give me a drink or anything to eat (he knew it would make me sick) before dropping me off to a FRW carer and from there I ended up living with Barb.

Scared, missing my mum and in an unfamiliar environment she had held me and soothed away my fears (and the hunger pangs in my belly with a warm bottle of special wallaby milk). For me it was love at first sight but for some of the older joeys it took longer – eventually her love would always win them over though. Barb looked after many other joeys while I lived with her (sadly not all of them made it) and I always had new playmates on a regular basis, many of which I still see today, often when I call past Barb's as they visit her as well.

Most of my time here was spent with Ziggie and Joycie. Joycie was a real bully and forever forcing us to participate in the mad ideas that she thought of. Joycie was always better at everything and teased us about it every chance she got. Like the day she decided we should have a jumping competition to see who could jump the highest. We decided to use Barb's bed – the challenge being to jump from a stand still into the middle of the bed – whoever got there would get to mark the bed as theirs'.

Joycie went first to "show us how it was done" - trying time after time with no luck – getting madder by the minute. She hopped over to the far side of the room and started towards us as fast as she could making one final attempt (the rules Joycie made for games were always changed to suit herself – we weren't game to argue with her). Her toes grazed the side of the doona before she landed on her head beside the bed. Ziggie and I avoided looking at one another – laughing at Joycie when she was in a mood like this was not wise.

Ziggy went next. He made a few half hearted attempts and gave up – knowing he had no chance of jumping that high, he was still much smaller than Joycie and myself. It was my turn. I so badly wanted to do this and wipe the smirk off Joycies' face. Turning to face the bed I readied myself and launched upwards, with every ounce of my strength towards the bed.

I felt the soft doona under my feet and carefully opened one eye. I had done it and with a perfect landing! I stood up proudly, smiling at Joycie as I stood in the middle of the bed and marked my new territory. That was when Barb walked in. I'll never forget the look on her face. She didn't yell or anything – just stood there speechless while I stood weeing on her bed and it seeped through the covers towards the floor - Joycie and Ziggy bolted while her attention was on me.

The sound of Barb's voice brought me back to the present and we looked over to see she had finished feeding the young ones and was at the back fence talking to Ziggie and Joycie (who have had 3 joeys together since we left Barb's). Tommy and I hopped over. There was a wide grin on her face as she took a good look at Tommy, who couldn't contain his excitement and was running in wide circles around Barb and I as if possessed by demons.

Barb lavished attention on Tommy while three of her joeys' hid behind her, shyly watching, and one bold young fellow had his nose against Tommy's and they were snuffling each other through the fence, making friends. She looked tired. The joeys she had in care ranged from about 4 months old to 9 months old – what a handful. Feeds at different hours, some in pouches, some out, one hiding in the back corner who had obviously just come into care and was terrified. At least she wasn't running around in a blind panic, like some of the new joeys I had seen, Barb often used to have tears running down her face as she saw them and tried to settle them down and make sure they didn't hurt themselves.

We stayed for about half an hour and, as the darkness enveloped the landscape, Tommy and I said goodbye to Barb and headed home. As Tommy ssshed me to let me know it was time for dinner I let him hop back in my pouch and clicked softly to him while he satisfied his hunger and fell into an exhausted slumber after his big day. As I drifted off to sleep myself the last thing on my mind was Barb. I hoped she could get some help soon, 7 joeys really were too much too handle on your own.....

*LUCIA, SEPTEMBER 2011*

*Photo : Sandy Cleeland*



# FLYING FOX/HENDRA FORUM

As some of you may know a forum was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2011, to answer some of the public's concerns over flying foxes and the Hendra Virus. A full transcript of the forum is available at

[http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/documents/Biosecurity\\_EmergencyResponse/Flying-Fox-Forum-full-transcript.pdf](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/documents/Biosecurity_EmergencyResponse/Flying-Fox-Forum-full-transcript.pdf)

Further information on Flying Foxes and the latest updates on the Hendra Virus are available at

[http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/4790\\_2900.htm](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/4790_2900.htm)

## FOR SALE

**Property for Wildlife & Secluded Rural Lifestyle living**

Looking for that pocket of land hidden away ? Then look no further!

Delightful, modern, well presented 3BR house on 120 Acres comprising of open paddocks, natural bush & a pocket of rainforest. At the end of a dead end road, discover a very private world from the moment you drive up the driveway. With exceptional infrastructure, close to all facilities and central to the mines and Mackay this property also provides easy access to Kinchant & Teemburra Dams for water sports & fishing

Equipped with a study and fitted with A/C and ceiling fans throughout the



house sits on a slight hill surrounded by rock wall gardens with automatic watering systems and 240V lighting. The inground swimming pool has a running rock waterfall & is surrounded by tropically landscaped gardens. The front verandah and back patio provide stunning views of the natural beauty of your surrounds and are perfect for entertaining.



Another great feature of this property is that it has areas set up for wildlife rehabilitation and release. There are 2 kangaroo & native wildlife compounds with 6ft cyclone fencing, shelters throughout and a possum house. With 5 water tanks, 2 bores, a permanent spring fed creek and rainfall water will never be an issue. . There is just too much to mention about this property from the man's shed (equipped with its' own meter), the 2 car carport, the orchard, the covered cattle yards, the horse stables and the 13 paddocks (each with their own water supply).

The price is \$720,000.00 & very negotiable to wildlife carers. If anyone is interested please contact either Harcourts on 4963 0100 or either Wendy or Roy on 4958 5661.



**CHECK OUT THE FRW  
NOTICEBOARD ON PAGE  
23 FOR SOME GREAT  
UPCOMING EVENTS**

# HELP FOR OUR MARINE ENVIRONMENT



The Founding Chair of Ecobarge, Libby Edge, has recently joined FRW. Eco Barge Clean Seas INC is a not for profit community organization dedicated to keeping our seas clean from harmful marine debris. As our population increases so does the amount of waste products we produce and unfortunately some of this ends up in the ocean creating potential threats to our marine wildlife and shore dwellers in addition to other problems.

Ecobarge are working with Qamar Schuyler, a marine scientist, investigating the impacts of marine debris on sea turtles. By towing a specialised net at the surface of the water and comparing the samples taken on these trips, they can learn which types of debris turtles encounter the most. Qamar, Eco Barge and QPWS are working together to collect stranded, deceased turtles in the Whitsunday region to investigate if their deaths were caused by plastics, and hopefully understand some of the impacts caused by marine litter.

Some of the debris collected will be used to make art at their educational stall at the Reef Family Festival Fun Day on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10am – 2pm at the Airlie Beach foreshore. While you are checking out FRW's stall call past Ecobarge's and learn more about how their work helps protect our marine life and shore dwelling creatures.

Ecobarge also work with the "Protect Our Coral Sea" campaign. Ecobarge met with campaigners Daisy and Xanthe this month and were shown how they can support their goal to establish a large, world-class, highly protected marine park in the Coral Sea [The Coral Sea Marine Park].

This will enable us to provide a safe haven for marine life and be able to recognize its historical significance. The organisers are calling on all businesses and residents to help make this a reality, by supporting the campaign. To find out more about how to support this worthwhile cause, please click on this link - <http://www.protectourcoralsea.org.au>. Businesses can also show their support by signing the [business petition](#).

FRW would like to thank Ecobarge for placing an ad for FRW in their newsletter. Many of the goals Ecobarge work towards align closely with FRW's own. If you would like to read Ecobarge's latest newsletter and see some of the other projects they operate please click on this link. <http://www.ecobargeservices.com/news.php#4>

## FEED A HUNGRY TURTLE

As we are all aware sea turtles are washing up in record numbers on our shores, with the main cause of death being starvation due to the damage to our seagrass beds. The Sea Turtle Foundation and the James Cook University are caring for any turtles found, but the running costs for this facility are high with it costing \$25 per week to feed a medium sized turtle.

You can now help by buying dinner for a starving turtle, for a day, a week or however long you want. If you can help please visit the Sea Turtle Foundation [donation page](#) or email [julie.trawee@seaturtlefoundation.org](mailto:julie.trawee@seaturtlefoundation.org) to let them know you would like to donate and feed a turtle. For more information on the Sea Turtle Foundation go to :

<http://www.seaturtlefoundation.org:80/feed-a-hungry-turtle/>

# LATEST NEWS ON



Do hope that you are continuing to visit the website [2012awrc](http://2012awrc.org.au) to keep yourself informed as our webmaster is continually updating the information.

Today is a “planning far ahead” topic. On the Wednesday afternoon of the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2012, one of the workshops will be an afternoon at the James Cook University Veterinary School where lecturers and tutorial staff will be training conference attendees in how to use a microscope and how to identify mammal and marsupial internal and external parasites. There is a maximum number of spaces for this workshop so get in early if this is the workshop you choose.

However the Veterinary School needs your help. They would like to have as extensive range of material as possible. All of our carers are on the lookout for specimens for the technicians to prepare, but they have also said that conference attendees are invited to bring specimens to the conference and our committee members will collect on the Monday evening or Tuesday morning, and then transporting them to James Cook Veterinary School for preparation.

Specimens would have to be collected no earlier than 15<sup>th</sup> July as specimens more than more than four to five days old are not suitable. Specimens should be refrigerated where possible, placed in small containers ( no 500grams please...) marked with the delegates name, host species, location ( State or town) and time of collection. They will do the identification. Of particular interest would be specimens collected from animals losing weight, chronic diarrhoea or unusual faeces.

We can all smile at the concept...“have faeces will fly” but the Veterinary School would really appreciate your support.

Any queries please contact Eleanor 07 47797708 or the Committee. [info@2012awrc.org.au](mailto:info@2012awrc.org.au)

## GRANTS UPDATE

FRW currently have a grant application under consideration by the Gambling and Community Benefit Fund to fund 20 of our members attending the 2012 AWRC. We are hoping to hear back mid December as to whether our application has been successful or not and will keep you updated.....

FRW submit grant applications to various organisations and this year we have done extremely well. It all started with us getting our first grant for our Educational materials (\$28,357.74). This grant was used to purchase educational materials and equipment for our School and Community Education Program. The items are being used at the school talks FRW operates and are greatly improving our profile with the kids.

The good news continued with notification from Whitsunday Council that they were contributing \$500 towards the cost of purchasing a release trailer, with the Public Fund contributing the balance of funds. FRW would like to thank the council for their contribution to this worthwhile project. Barb A. is organising the trailer at the moment and we hope to have it up and running soon.

The predator proof trailer will be used for the soft release of possums, gliders and birds allowing us to easily relocate it to prevent overpopulation. We anticipate this trailer will be used on a frequent basis and greatly improve our soft release program. THANKS TO THE WHITSUNDAY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR THEIR HELP WITH FUNDING THIS PROJECT.





# GRANTS UPDATE *cont'd*

It didn't stop there though. We have recently received notification from the Building Rural Communities Fund that our application for funding for carer packs and the Anne Fowler workshop in November has been approved (\$9,941). These funds will be used to purchase housing and equipment for carers and fund Anne's workshop which provides our carers with invaluable information (as we have received funding for this workshop there will be no cost to FRW members – if you would like to attend [more details on noticeboard on page 23] please RSVP to [frwsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:frwsecretary@gmail.com) at least two weeks prior to the workshop). The funds should be through around the end of October.

Carer members of FRW normally pay for most of the expenses incurred caring themselves with FRW helping when we can. The carer packs will help encourage animal lovers to care for our wildlife by providing them with the essentials needed for caring at no cost to themselves. With assistance desperately needed we hope our long-suffering carers will have some new help soon (if you are thinking of caring see story on pages 4 and 5 about Lucia and what is involved in caring for an animal).



FRW would like to thank the QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT'S BUILDING RURAL COMMUNITIES FUND THROUGH BLUEPRINT FOR THE BUSH who have proudly supplied the funding for this project.

This project was proudly funded by the Queensland Government's Building Rural Communities Fund through Blueprint for the Bush.

While we were just getting over the excitement of getting these grants we received another notification. This was from the Gambling and Community Benefit fund with yet more good news. Our application for a trailer to transport FRW goods to markets and displays and other promotional materials had also been approved for the sum of \$9,413. We have received these funds and we are in the process of organising the trailer and promotional materials.

This transport trailer will be used by the volunteers who man our fundraising and community education programs to allow them to transport the equipment and materials needed in one trailer, instead of the MANY trips back and forth to the car involved with loading and unloading these supplies. The dedication and time these volunteers put in is much better spent educating the public and helping our wildlife - rather than on setting/packing up and we hope this trailer will make their lives a little easier. THANK YOU TO THE GAMBLING AND COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND FOR FUNDING THIS PROJECT.

We have our fingers crossed that our run of good luck will continue. As mentioned earlier we have an application in for funding for FRW members to attend the AWRC. There are also three more rounds of grant funding coming up over the next couple of months which FRW will also be submitting applications for. The Breakwater Island Casino Community Benefit Fund, the Natural Resources Grant and the Gambling and Community Benefit Fund grant are all open for submission and FRW will be applying for funding for humidicribs, for the printing of a booklet to go with our school promotional materials which will have fact sheets about our native animals and problem animals etc. and for a display trailer for use at our promotional activities. Will keep you all updated on our progress with all of these.

With our recent good luck we would like to be able to help the carers who help our wildlife. We would like to hear from you, should you need assistance or facilities associated with caring for our wildlife as well as any future funding ideas or items. You will find a form in this newsletter (page 21) to fill out should you need assistance or have any ideas. Please take the time to fill it in and we will see what we can do.

A special thanks to all the members who have helped with the gathering of information, preparation and submission of these successful grant applications and those who were kind enough to write the support letters that helped us obtain these grants.

## WHITE IBIS SURVEY

The Ibis Management Coordination group and the Department of Climate Change and Water are collaborating to undertake a survey of the Australian White Ibis. This study will aid in the long term conservation and effective management of the species. For more information visit [www.ecosure.com.au](http://www.ecosure.com.au) or email [ibiscensus@ecosure.com.au](mailto:ibiscensus@ecosure.com.au)

If you see an Australian White Ibis on Sunday 30th October 2011 go to [www.ecosure.com.au](http://www.ecosure.com.au) and complete an ibis census datasheet!

# DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) is currently in the process of updating the 2001 Master Plan for Queensland's park system. Please see below for more details and information on how you can access the draft and make comments. Please take the time to have a look at the draft as the results of this update will affect the native fauna of our area.

The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) is charged with managing protected areas and forests, as well as the irreplaceable wildlife that lives alongside us and shares the environment we all depend on.

For the past 10 years the 2001 Master Plan for Queensland's parks system has helped guide the way QPWS manages national parks to protect natural and cultural values. From July until December 2011 the Master Plan is being updated to reflect the challenges and opportunities that QPWS will face over the next 10 years. It will address all aspects of QPWS business, including protected areas on land and sea, as well as forests and wildlife.

A consultation draft has been developed: Naturally Queensland 2020, the Master Plan for protected areas, forests and wildlife. This draft can be downloaded from the following link:

[http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/parks\\_and\\_forests/managing\\_parks\\_and\\_forests/management\\_plans\\_and\\_strategies/parks\\_master\\_plan.html](http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/parks_and_forests/managing_parks_and_forests/management_plans_and_strategies/parks_master_plan.html)

You are encouraged to comment to help set the scene for the future of protected areas, forests and wildlife in Queensland.. **The consultation period will close on 20 November 2011.** To comment or for further enquiries please either email: [parkswildlifevision@derm.qld.gov.au](mailto:parkswildlifevision@derm.qld.gov.au), phone Danielle Shanahan on 07 33305944, or post your comments to:

QPWS draft Master Plan Naturally Queensland 2020  
Master Plan Team  
Department of Environment and Resource Management  
GPO Box 2454  
Brisbane QLD 4001

I look forward to hearing your thoughts and ideas on a new vision for Queensland's protected areas, forests and wildlife.

*Andrea Leverington  
Assistant Director General  
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service*

## TO SELL/GIVE AWAY

If you have any useful items related to rescuing or caring for wildlife to either give away or sell contact Lola Mudie on 07 494 1281 or [melo@mackay.net.au](mailto:melo@mackay.net.au)

### Items for Sale

Possum books by Sonya Stanvic, "Rescued" compiled by Jodie Blackney, workshop notes by Dr Jim Pollock, re-useable heat pads, assorted FRW t-shirts (from \$12.00), rescue baskets, car signs, lawn signs

### Items to Give Away

Disposable cage liners, small mammal pouches, towels, pouches for pinkie joeys or possums. A sample of these items will be available at all our meetings, workshops and get togethers.

# CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



I can think of lots of things to **DONATE** :

- ELECTRICAL ITEMS
  - **GIFT VOUCHERS**
  - ALCOHOL
- **CHRISTMAS FARE (NON PERISHABLE)**
- ACCOMMODATION
  - **TRIPS**
  - HOLIDAYS
- **GIFT HAMPERS**
- SERVICES
- **YOUR TIME SELLING TICKETS, HELPING AT RAFFLE STALL**

WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF DONATIONS COULD BE RECEIVED BY 16<sup>TH</sup> NOV.

## **POSITIONS VACANT**

### **RAFFLE TICKET SELLERS**

### **HELPING WITH RAFFLE STALL**

(23/11/11 to 18/12/11)

**Qualifications :** No experience necessary – learn as you go

**Hours :** Part time (when you can fit it in) until Xmas

**Job Outline :** Enthusiastic and outgoing members required to sell raffle tickets and help man our raffle stall. Great work environment and job satisfaction, meet new people and catch up with those you haven't seen for a while.

**Pay Rate :** Nil, but a big THANK YOU from all the animals we help

**Contact :** Leigh Skead 0429 494 804

**CAN YOU  
HELP US WITH  
A DONATION  
FOR OUR  
XMAS  
RAFFLE?**



Photo : Unknown

**WHAT DO WE  
NEED?**

# ATTACKING MAGPIES

Our backyard lawns, parks, school grounds and paddocks may have been designed for people but they have also created habitat for birds, such as the Australian magpie *Cracticus tibicen*, that like to live in grassy, lightly treed areas. Magpies occur over much of Australia, often live in small groups of up to five individuals (in Queensland), and take up territories that include nesting and roosting trees and grassy feeding areas.

Living so closely to people has helped make the magpie an icon of the Australian bush and backyard. The bold black and white markings of a magpie and its wavering flute-like song are among the most recognisable elements of the Australian landscape. To a magpie, a territory is the foundation of their survival. Without it, they will not breed and will also face the constant risk of attack when they trespass on to the territories of other magpies.

## THE TERRITORIAL SWOOPER

For most of the year people and magpies happily co-exist, sharing open space and backyards. For a few weeks of the year, the safety of a magpie's young becomes its primary concern, and they may no longer be willing to share the area surrounding their nest and chicks.

Only a small proportion of magpies swoop on people and these often have a preference for a few individuals that the birds recognise, or certain types of 'targets' like pedestrians and cyclists. **If a magpie defending its nest becomes aggressive and a risk to human safety, the magpie may be removed.** By understanding magpies and knowing how to behave around them, you can stay safe from a swooping magpie.

- A magpie will only defend its nest within a 'defence zone'. For pedestrians, this is usually an area within 100 metres of the nest but can be much larger for cyclists.
- Almost all swoops on people are carried out by male magpies defending their eggs and chicks, which are in the nest for about six weeks from mid-August to the end of September.
- Magpies often become more aggressive as the chicks become older, but swooping usually stops once the young have left the nest.
- A magpie's defensive behaviour can range from a non-contact swoop with or without beak snapping, through to pecking, dive-bombing and sometimes front-on attacks from the ground.
- A few attacks are more serious leading to bloodied ears and cheeks or even eye injury. The risk of eye injury means all magpie attacks need to be taken seriously.

## STAYING SAFE

- Wear a broad-brimmed hat and sunglasses or shelter under an umbrella to protect your face from swooping magpies (painting or sticking large 'eyes' on the back of your hat can also deter magpies—but this won't work for cyclists).
- If a magpie swoops while you are cycling, it will probably stop swooping if you get off your bike and walk.
- Avoid 'defence zones' by taking alternative routes during the breeding season.
- If you must enter a 'defence zone', magpies will be less likely to swoop if they are watched constantly, or if people walk in a close group.
- Use signs to warn others of the location of nests and defence zones, particularly in areas used by children and the elderly.
- Waving sticks or umbrellas in the air or attaching a brightly coloured flag on a long pole to your bicycle can stop magpies from swooping.

## BEING MAGPIE-FRIENDLY

- Don't fight back if a magpie swoops. Throwing sticks and stones or yelling at a magpie are likely to make it more aggressive next time anyone enters the defence zone around their nest.
- Never approach a young magpie. Fledglings that have just left the nest or have fallen out are likely to be under the watchful eye of a parent. If you pick them up or get too close the parent bird may think you are a possible predator and become defensive in the future. If you believe they are at risk, wait until after dark before you pick them up and place them back in a tree.



# ATTACKING MAGPIES *cont'd*

## LISTENING FOR LUNCH

Magpies have an amazing ability to listen for the sounds of moving prey just below the surface of the soil—an ability that doesn't seem to be shared by other ground-feeding birds like crows. Once located, the magpie's long, sharp beak pinches out its prey and eats it.

Experiments have found that a magpie can find buried lawn grubs 96 times out of 100, making them one of the best backyard lawn grub eradicators.

## AN AUSTRALIAN SYMBOL

Magpies are tough birds, protective of their patch and their young. These qualities have helped magpies become a symbol for many Australians—as emblems for sporting teams and social clubs, and even as a nickname for someone with a keen eye for finding things.

But the magpie is also a reminder that nature is something we live beside rather than control. By understanding magpies, we can live alongside this singing companion that keeps our lawns free from lawn grubs, and safely manage the small risk of a swoop from a protective parent raising its young.

## SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Jones DN 2002, *Magpie alert: learning to live with a wild neighbour*, University of New South Wales Press, Sydney. DERM.

# SICK TURTLES

Unfortunately there have been quite a few hotline calls about sick sea turtles. The recent cyclones have devastated sea grass beds leaving many starving. This is just one of the many stories.



A Green turtle was spotted floating in Shute harbor by one of Fauna Rescues' members: Ron and it was obvious to him it was in a bad way. He quickly arranged for it to be collected and taken to be assessed by Kylee and myself.

It was extremely weak and so thin that the shell was sunken deeply, we gave it little hope. One of the first things we need to do when finding an injured marine animal is to contact the RSPCA hotline number: 1300 264 625 as we work under their direction. The turtle came home with me and at their suggestion was put in a shallow bath of fresh water, where he

immediately had a big drink. They said to attempt to feed hydroponically grown lettuce and squid but unfortunately he showed no interest.

You can see in the pictures the algae growing on him, this is a sign that he has been floating for a long time as the algae only can grow so well in the light, you can also see the sunken area between the head and shell. This should not be there, it should be full and plump

He survived the night but sadly died the next day. The body was collected by a DERM officer and transported to Townsville for research purposes.

There is a facility in Townsville that is overflowing with starving turtles who are being cared for until they are strong enough to release. See page 7 for a link to more details about the turtle hospital run by the Sea Turtle Foundation and the James Cook University

Words and Photos : Linden Baker



**For an amazing slow motion video of a Eurasian Eagle Owl landing go to :**

<http://www.frw.org.au/eagle.flv>

# SEA TURTLE IDENTIFICATION

## Identification Key

The identification key below will help you identify the marine turtles of the Great Barrier Reef. Follow the flow chart and match the carapace (shell) and/or the pre-frontal scales on the head to the turtle in question.

Carapace ridges, no scales



Leatherback

Carapace scales

4 pair costal scales



5 pair costal scales  
Colour red-brown to brown



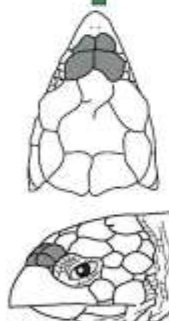
Loggerhead

6 pair costal scales  
Colour grey-green



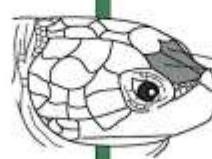
Olive Ridley

2 pair pre-frontal scales  
Thick overlapping carapace scales



Hawksbill

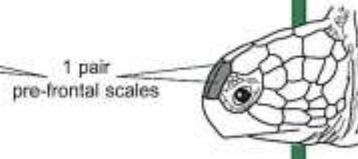
1 pair pre-frontal scales  
No thick overlapping carapace scales



Carapace low domed  
with upturned edges  
Colour olive grey



Flatback



Carapace high domed  
Colour light to dark green  
with dark mottling



Green

  
Australian Government  
Great Barrier Reef  
Marine Park Authority  
2-68 Flinders Street  
PO Box 1379 Townsville, Qld 4810.  
1800 990 177  
www.gbrmpa.gov.au

**PLEASE REPORT SICK, INJURED, STRANDED OR DEAD SEA TURTLES TO THE RSPCA  
HOTLINE ON 1300 264 625**

# POSSUM & GLIDER REPORT OCTOBER 2011

There had been a shortage of possums in the area coming into care, this is unusual, and I actually rang Carol on Hamilton Island to see what was happening there. She has had a lot of bats but not many possums. This was either a good or bad thing.

It turned out to be a bad thing. With the possums taken into care over the past two weeks we now have a total of 8 possums in care! They are mostly all different sizes, which makes housing difficult. Miranda is caring for two, Cryst'l looking after one and I have 5 (at various ages/sizes) so am doing a shuffle in aviaries. Betty in Bowen also has a new pink baby.

I have had one in care that needed to be euthanased because of untreatable injuries. I also had 2 pink gliders that I fed for 2 days and nights (every 2 hours) who both died. It was very sad and I will keep trying until I am successful.

I believe both these babies had been in the mouth of the dog or cat that killed mum. Although they have not pierced the skin they obviously have hurt the baby inside as bruises start to appear on the third day.

I am excited as there may be 2 new possum carers that I am spending some time with at the moment - will update all on that later.

**Barb Adamson**

**Possum / Glider Liaison Officer**

## HAVE YOU SEEN AN ECHINDA?

*Did you know* that although the echidna is Australia's most widely distributed native mammal, very little is known about this unique egg-laying mammal? You are fortunate to live in an area where echidnas are often seen and their food source of termites is abundant. A study of echidna reproductive behaviour is underway and The University of Queensland is seeking information of sightings of echidna.



If you see live or dead echidna please phone Trish Lee Hong on 0746305208 or mob. 0407028540 or if you are able to assist to locate termite mounds email me at: [patricia.leehong@uqconnect.edu.au](mailto:patricia.leehong@uqconnect.edu.au)

Project is approved by The University of Queensland

Animal Ethics Committee: Project # SCMB/092/11/PHD



# CAREER TIPS

I have some exciting news regarding using Nizoral for macropod joeys that will be easier with treatment and easier on our joeys who contract intestinal thrush.

I have met the most wonderful veterinarian who specializes in macropods, and who is also a macropod *carer*! Her name is Dr. Yvonne Ogier and she has been trialling a different dose rate of Nizoral. The most incredible aspect to her advice is that we need to use Nizoral **in conjunction with the formula.**

This is something we have never been aware of before, but the reason we need to use it IN one bottle of formula, is so that absorption of the Nizoral is enhanced. This method also decreases the potential of side effects which may include nausea, lack of appetite, lethargy and jaundice associated with the adverse effect of liver damage.

The dose rate is:

**UNFURRED JOEYS:** 1/4 tablet in 10 ml of water. (This equals 5 mg per ml).

Use 2 ml per kg of bodyweight **ONCE PER DAY in one formula feed.**

**FURRED JOEYS:** (2 kg weight upwards) 1 tablet in 5 ml of water. Use 0.25 ml per kg of bodyweight **ONCE PER DAY in one formula feed.**

Use until all symptoms of thrush have disappeared and for an extra 2 days after.

## **E. COLI:**

Also, in cases of E Coli, we have had a couple of successful treatments with injectable Lincospectin, at the usual dose rate. Always use until all symptoms have disappeared and for an extra 2 days after.

## **E. COLI COMBINED WITH INTESTINAL THRUSH:**

In the case of intestinal thrush and E coli combined, using the above treatments in combination have been successful!!

Dr. Voni has also compiled a complete analysis of DiVetelact and why it is not nutritional efficient for macropod joeys. You can download this analysis for free here.

Download link:

[http://hotfile.com/dl/125924084/d38d8ab/DiVetelact\\_analysisDr\\_Yvonne\\_Ogier.combined\\_pdf.pdf.html](http://hotfile.com/dl/125924084/d38d8ab/DiVetelact_analysisDr_Yvonne_Ogier.combined_pdf.pdf.html)

Happy caring, Wildlife Rescue and Care, 9 Gavin Way, Cornubia Qld 4130. Ph 0412 561215

## **AS AT 18/10/2011 : VACCINATION PROTOCOLS FOR 5 IN 1 ULTRAVAC VACCINE (Pfizer)**

(*Clostridium perfringens* type D, *Cl. tetani*, *Cl. novyi* type B, *Cl. septicum*, *Cl. chauvoie*.) The first two are the ones that are most important to marsupials.

For orphan hand reared marsupials including macropods, possums, gliders, echidnas and wombats

The dose rate for juveniles is 0.1 ml of 5 in 1 vaccine per 100grams in weight. With a maximum of 1ml for everything over 1 kg.BW

All doses to be administered subcutaneously into different sites on the body, say first left shoulder area, next right shoulder area, third left flank and so on.

Wait until the animal is stable to give the 1st dose, 2nd dose is two to four weeks from first, 3rd dose 4 weeks later, then one final dose 6 months from original dose if the animal is in care for that length of time..

For adults the dose rate is 3 doses of 1 ml given every four weeks with a booster at a year.

FRW has a stock of the 5 in 1 vaccine available which is recommended for use with macropods and possums. Contact your Species Liaison Officer for further details.



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## OCTOBER 2011

*Photo : Kookaburra chicks – Linden Baker*

### CROCODILE SAFARI

I am writing this report after a lovely day out on the Whitsunday Crocodile Safari, run by Jacqui & Steve Watson from Proserpine River Eco Tours. I have done this trip many times in the past, taking visitors out to experience and learn about not only the crocodiles, but also other inhabitants of our River and wetland system, the importance of the mangroves, bush tucker & remedies and the history of this amazing area we call home.

This time we saw more crocs than I have ever seen before as well as lots of little crocs, indicating that the Proserpine River is still supporting a good population of crocodiles who are fit, healthy and breeding successfully after a couple of disastrous years, with nests washed away in the flooding.

Did you know that Crocodiles are the worlds largest reptiles, are great survivors and their prehistoric ancestors, the Archosaurs, date back over 240 million years to the Triassic period. They have survived major changes on earth, such as the break up of the continents the ice ages and also survived the rise and fall of the dinosaurs. Since man colonised the world, no species of crocodile has become extinct, however 17 out of the 23 species of crocodilians around the world are endangered.

Crocodiles did however come close to extinction between World War II & the 1960's with the hunting for skins causing numbers to decline dramatically, until they became protected in the 1970's. Since then their numbers have been steadily increasing again with the Proserpine River boasting one of the highest crocodile inhabited rivers in Australia. The males can grow to 7 metres (23 feet) but most are less than 5 metres and the females are usually less than 4 metres in length and may begin nesting at about 12 years of age. It is estimated that crocodiles can live for at least 70 to 100 years.



I could go on for ages about Crocodile facts, as well as what we learnt about the amazing Mangrove system and other river inhabitants, but suggest you go out for the day with Steve & his crew to learn more for yourself. We are planning to do this trip again, but this time at the end of the wet season, so we can see the Goorganga Wetlands at it's best and experience more of the amazing bird life that calls this place home in the wet season.

On behalf of all of us, I would like to thank Jacqui, Steve & Scott for a great day out, we all enjoyed ourselves thoroughly, as well as the scrumptious lunch and afternoon tea and we learnt lots about our reptilian friends. Thank you also to Jacqui & Steve for the donation to FRW. Special thanks also to our wonderful secretary, Alix, for organizing the tour for us☺

### DONATIONS AND GRANTS

Thanks also go to a number of other people who have made donations recently to FRW, with a special thank you to Dr Rex Patterson from the former Mackay SPCA for the generous donation. We have also been extremely lucky with our grant applications (see the Grants Update on pages 8 & 9 of this newsletter).

### OUR NEW PUBLIC IMAGE

I would like to send a big thank you to Cathi for designing our stickers & fridge magnets as well as to Deb & Shane Henshall from Paradise Printing for the wonderful job they have done on our brochures, magnets, stickers, postcards & tote bags for the school kids & display stalls. Thanks also to their Graphic Designer Louise, for improving our logo, so we have a better quality one to use for printing.

### WHITSUNDAY COAST GUARDIAN ADS

Whilst I am issuing thank yous I would also like to thank The Whitsunday Coast Guardian and Sarah for running the ads for us on a regular basis. We are hoping to attract more members and carers with these eye-catching ads created by one of our members, Cathi. Well done Cathi!

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## cont'd

Photo : Squirrel Glider : Andrea Gottke

### DISPLAYS & FUNDRAISING

We have continued to try and keep FRW in the public eye, whilst endeavouring to gain new members. Barb McL organized a Hot Dog Stall at the Airlie Markets & Lola recently 'manned' a stall at the Community Expo at the Whitsunday Shopping Centre for 3 days. Thank you Ladies, for your time and effort to organize, attend and to your helpers too. It is important that we continue to remind our community that we are here should they need us as well as to educate about our wildlife, find new members and continue to raise more funds to assist with caring for our wildlife.

FRW also operated a display and hot dog stand at the Reef Festival. Congratulations to Barb A and Rick, Mel & Lola, Sandy, Lorelle, Allanna & Rod, Leigh and Kylee on a successful day. Working like a well oiled team they sold all the hot dogs and did a great job of promoting FRW – thank you all for your help.



### THE SILLY SEASON – HELP NEEDED

Well it's that time of the year again, our migratory birds are returning, birds, echidnas, reptiles & koalas are breeding and the weather and land are getting drier. Now is the time to ensure that bird baths and water containers are refreshed daily to keep fresh water topped up for the animals and to avoid mozzies breeding.

We refer to this as our "silly season". Our critters tend to be less cautious as they go about their daily & nightly activities and we see more animals coming into care. Magpies, butcherbirds & plovers are more likely to swoop as they defend their nest and chicks, so please avoid their nesting area for a few weeks. Be on the lookout for our scaly friends when you're walking around your property.

This is the time of year when we need all hands on deck, especially for caring for baby birds, wallabies & possums, as well as rescues and temporary care, so if your circumstances have changed and you are not on the Species Liaison Officer's lists for caring please give us a call as we need your help.

### CHRISTMAS PLANS

Our Christmas Raffle is also under organization, so donations for the raffle are being sought and helpers will be needed to run the raffle stalls. Please let us know if you can help with either. If you have put your name down for help with fundraising we will definitely be giving you a call! We will also be organising a Christmas function for members again this year, more details on this will be sent to you once finalized.

### DR ANNE FOWLER WORKSHOP

Lastly, I would like to remind you to keep November 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> free as Dr Anne's workshops are not to be missed as she is a very entertaining and knowledgeable Wildlife Veterinarian. As soon as we have finalized the times with Anne we will send out the information. Here is a write up on Dr Anne from Linda Dennis, Fourth Crossing Wildlife: Anne Fowler graduated from Veterinary Science at Sydney University after completing an Honours year investigating Vitamin D Metabolism in Marsupials. She then worked as a veterinarian in the Hunter Valley where she became involved with wildlife through Native Animal Trust Fund.

When Anne moved to Victoria, she obtained a wildlife shelter permit and began teaching about wildlife care to foster carers and shelters. Anne teaches on wildlife care to carer groups throughout Australia while working as a veterinarian with an interest in birds, pocket pets and wildlife.

*\*\* Anne is known in the wildlife community as a bit of a wildlife wiz. I have lost track of how many times she has assisted me when critters in my care have become ill, or just when I needed a bit of friendly advice. There are many wildlife carers who have also benefited from her knowledge sharing. She is a wealth of knowledge not only on illness and disease in wildlife, but also on their general care.*

Till next time.....Cheers Jacqui

# LOOKING FOR LOVE

While we get few koalas in care in this area they are known to live in the Collinsville, Midge Point & Bloomsbury areas. With spring on our doorstep our koalas are looking for love, and they are quite vocal about it too. The below article has information on how to recognise if a koala is living in your area. FRW would like to hear if you see or hear koalas in your area. If you have anything to report please give the hotline a call with the details.



## **KOALAS WITH GRUNT By Abbie Thomas**

(Article reproduced with the permission of the ABC)

**Spring in eastern and southern Australia is the time to listen out for the bizarre sounds of male koalas looking for love. They may seem passive and sleepy, but come mating time, koalas morph into aggressive, smelly creatures that you'd never want to cuddle in a million years.**

The grunts and bellows of amorous male koalas are so loud they can sometimes be heard several kilometres away. You're most likely to hear the sounds of their gruntings at sunrise and sunset.

Koalas are frequently down on the ground at this time of year, moving between trees in their search for mates and territory. If they live near an urban settlement, this is when koalas are most likely to be attacked by dogs or hit by cars. The Australian Koala Foundation says at least 4000 koalas are killed each year by cars or dogs, apart from those who die when forests are cleared.

These tree-dwelling pouched marsupials are very territorial, and the larger individuals command a home range of many hectares. As the spring breeding season approaches, the male patrols his trees in search of females who are ready to mate, and, being a polygamist, the more girls the better.

### **Marsupial Idol**

The action starts when our dominant koala spots another male hanging out in his territory. Outraged, he tries to scare off the intruder with a loud, harsh cry. It's a weird and spine-chilling bellow, half way between water gurgling down a drain and a log being hacked to pieces by a blunt saw.

If this doesn't work, the big guy moves in for the attack. He rushes up and tries to grab his opponent, who usually retreats to the end of the branch, or even hightails it down the tree.

If the attacker manages to tackle the other koala, he thrusts one arm around his opponent's shoulders and bites him hard on the elbow, often leaving a bad wound. Koalas have even been pulled right out of a tree by their adversary during combat.

Because these violent encounters need plenty of strength and experience, most male koalas are lucky to get a mate before they turn four or five years old, even though they are physically mature by about 18 months of age.

The blokes aren't the only ones to voice their feelings. Female koalas too will vocalise: letting out a snarl or scream if they are feeling threatened or during sexual contact. But whereas males specialise in terrifying howls, females mostly murmur and click quietly to their joey (baby koala), who returns their affections with its own tiny squeaks.

### **Is there anybody out there?**

Koalas aren't the most energetic animal - spending up to 20 hours each day resting or sleeping and only one or two hours actively moving about. So vocalisations are important for them: these bellows not only enable koalas to be heard over long distances, but also save fighting energy, by signalling to other koalas that this is a dominant individual so not to bother attacking.

**When:** Northern Australia - mating from July-April (babies born from August)

Southern Australia - mating from September - February (babies born from October)

**Where:** East coast, from far north Queensland to Victoria and coastal South Australia. Koalas will live in tall coastal eucalypt forests, but are never found in rainforests or the desert.

**What to look for:** A white flash of chest hair, scratching on trees, a powerful musky smell.

**What you might not know about koalas:** They eat up to 1kg gum leaves and do up to 150 poos each day

# LOOKING FOR LOVE *cont'd*

**Koala hotspots:** Kangaroo Island (SA), Tower Hill Reserve (Vic), Barrington Tops National Park (NSW), Canarvon National Park and Lamington National Park (Qld). Koalas are not found in the wild in WA, NT or Tasmania.

The home ranges, which koalas maintain by using their grunts and bellows, are taken very seriously by other koalas in the vicinity. Even after a koala dies, others won't invade its home range for at least a year, which is about how long it takes for the scent markings and scratches of the previous occupant to disappear.

## Fussy eaters

One thing that highly influences how a koala chooses its habitat is the suitability of the trees. Koalas are highly specialised feeders, preferring only about 10 per cent of Australia's nearly 600 species of eucalyptus tree. In the south, the absolute favourite koala tucker are manna gums (*E viminalis*) and swamp gums (*E ovata*). In the north, their preference is for forest red gums (*E tereticornis*), tallowwood (*E microcorys*) and grey gum (*E punctata*). They also enjoy snacking on blue gum (*E globulus*), river red gum (*E camaldulensis*) and flooded gum (*E grandis*).

Although koalas occasionally eat small amounts of bark and twigs, their diet is pretty much restricted to gum leaves. But despite the narrow diet, koalas are often found sitting in trees which are not their food trees, such as wattles, she-oaks, paperbarks and even radiata pine, none of which offer them anything edible. Researchers believe koalas may seek out these trees to shelter in during windy, rainy or very hot weather.

## Eau de Koala

As if the grunts and bellows weren't enough to help track down a koala or two, there's always the option of sniffing them out. There is nothing quite like the heady aroma of a koala in season which, once experienced, is never forgotten. The aroma is something like 'a pungent acrid musk, laced with a hint of eucalypt' as koala expert Scott Buckingham describes it. The smell comes from both the urine and from a scent gland on the male's chest which he rubs vigorously against the branches as he climbs. So beware if you are looking for koalas, you'll probably smell them, even before you hear them and certainly before you see them!

**Further info :** [Australian Koala Foundation](#)

**References :** *Locating Koalas in the Australian Bush*, Scott Buckingham, 1999, Bolwarrah Press  
Published 05 October 2006

# FABLE OF THE PORCUPINE

*It was the coldest winter ever and many animals died because of the cold. Some porcupines, realizing the gravity of the situation, decided to group together to share warmth. This way they were better covered and protected; however - the quills of each one wounded their closest companions. After a while they decided to distance themselves one from the other and soon after they began to die, alone and frozen.*

*They had to make a choice: either accept the quills of their companions or disappear from the Earth. Wisely, they decided to go back to being together. They learned to accept the little wounds that were caused by these close relationships, in order to benefit from what their companions offered. It was this way that they were able to survive and thrive.*

## MORAL OF THE STORY

*The best relationships are not ones that bring together perfect beings, but are instead ones where individuals learn to live with the imperfections of others and can still accept the gifts they have to offer.*

AUTHOR AND PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN





## FUNDING APPLICATION FORM

<b>NAME</b>						
<b>RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS</b>						
<b>POSTAL ADDRESS</b>						
<b>HOME PHONE</b>				<b>MOBILE</b>		
<b>DATE</b>				<b>SIGNED</b>		
<b>FUNDING SOUGHT FOR (Please circle)</b>						
<b>EXISTING FRW PROJECT/CARER</b>				<b>IDEA FOR PROJECT TO HELP FRW</b>		
<b>PROJECT DETAILS (PLEASE INCLUDE THE BENEFITS TO FRW AND GIVE AS MANY DETAILS AS POSSIBLE)</b>						
<b>COSTS AND/OR OTHER ASSISTANCE REQUIRED (PLEASE PROVIDE QUOTES IF POSSIBLE)</b>						
<a href="mailto:frwsecretary@gmail.com">Please email to frwsecretary@gmail.com</a> or mail to address on front of newsletter						
<b>OFFICE USE ONLY :</b>						
<b>DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED</b>	/ / 201			<b>BY</b>	POST	EMAIL
<b>APPROVED</b>	YES		NO		<b>AMOUNT APPROVED</b>	\$
<b>APPROVED BY</b>	JW	LM	CF	BA	LB	GO
<b>FUNDS PAID</b>	/ / 201			<b>DATE PROJECT FINALISED</b>	/ / 201	

# WENDY WALLABY'S FUN PAGE

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW AUSTRALIA



**CAN YOU ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BELOW  
(the map above will help you)**

1. The Northern Territory has a huge rock called this.
2. What is the building in Sydney called that has a roof shaped like sails?
3. The biggest reef in the world is called ..... ?
4. Dolphins will eat out of your hand at Monkey Mia – in which state?
5. The ocean off the east coast of Australia is called the .....?
6. An extinct animal from Tasmania is .....?
7. Adelaide is known as the city of .....?
8. The capital of Queensland is .....?
9. The capital of Victoria is .....?

## CAN YOU FIND THE FOLLOWING WORDS?

The words may be forwards, backwards, horizontally,  
vertically or diagonally.

Ants, termites, puggle, spines, burrows, beak, egg, dig,  
mammal, hair, joey



## WHAT AM I?

**When I am born I am blind and  
I don't have any hair**

**I can lift objects twice my  
own weight**

**Sometimes when I am scared  
I curl up in a ball**

**I like to bask in the sun and I  
lay eggs – but I am not a  
reptile**

**My babies are called either  
joeys or puggles**

**My favourite foods are ants  
and termites**

A	D	A	E	K	S	F	H
Y	N	G	G	E	A	A	G
E	D	T	N	G	I	E	A
O	S	I	S	R	G	T	B
J	P	U	G	G	L	E	M
S	E	T	I	M	R	E	T
B	L	A	M	M	A	M	E
J	B	U	R	R	O	W	S

## UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

# FRW NOTICEBOARD

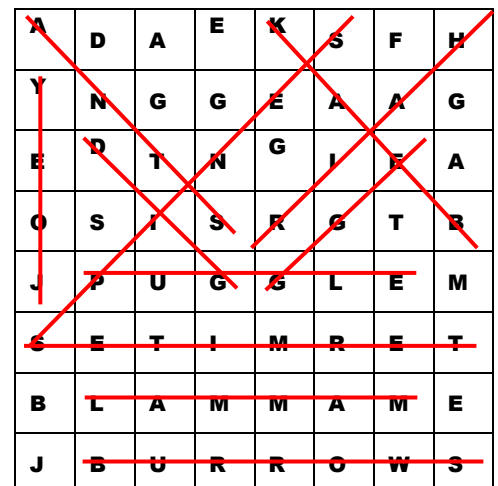
DATE	EVENT	WHERE	MORE INFO
Thursday mornings and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month	Volunteer for Landcare Activities	Contact Christine Peterson 4945 0267 for details	Learn how to identify and propagate native plants
October	FRW Committee Meeting	TBA	FRW Committee Members
8 <sup>th</sup> November 2011	Presentation on trap camera findings for Proserpine Rock Wallabies by QPWS	7.00pm, Canegrowers Proserpine, Main Street, Proserpine	Whitsunday Catchment Landcare, Christine Peterson 4945 0267
11 <sup>th</sup> November, 2011	Managing Horses on Small Properties Workshop	Proserpine RSL, Chapman Street, Proserpine	9.00am – 3.00pm (cost \$20 per person or \$30 for two from one property) Includes morning tea and lunch. RSVP and payment by 8/11, email <a href="mailto:wcl@whitsundayrc.qld.gov.au">wcl@whitsundayrc.qld.gov.au</a> or call 4945 0267
12 <sup>th</sup> November, 2011	Cuppa 'n' Chat for Carers – with BBQ lunch	Wendy Adams place	Wendy/FRW newsletter
26 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup> November, 2011	Dr Anne Fowler Workshop	TBA	FRW newsletter
16 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> July, 2012	Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference	Townsville, Qld	<a href="http://www.2012awrc.org.au">www.2012awrc.org.au</a> AWRC Update - FRW Newsletter

## WENDY WALLABY'S FUN PAGE ANSWERS

### HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW AUST?

1. Uluru
2. Sydney Opera House
3. Great Barrier Reef
4. Western Australia
5. Pacific Ocean
6. Tasmanian Tiger
7. Churches
8. Brisbane
9. Melbourne

### WHAT AM I – I AM AN ECHINDA





## Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc.

P. O. Box 806, Cannonvale 4802

Hotline : 07 4947 3389

**USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS**

FRW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS/SPECIES LIASON OFFICERS	Whitsunday Shire Council
<b>President</b> – Jacqui Webb Phone : 4947 3308 0427 176 966 Email : <a href="mailto:Jacqui.webb@bigpond.com">Jacqui.webb@bigpond.com</a>	<b>Macropod SLO</b> – Wendy Adams Phone : 4958 5661 0419 743 801 Email : <a href="mailto:macropods@bigpond.com">macropods@bigpond.com</a>	4945 0200
<b>Vice President</b> – Lola Mudie Phone : 4946 1281 Email : <a href="mailto:melo@mackay.net.au">melo@mackay.net.au</a>	<b>Proserpine Rock Wallaby SLO</b> – Sandy Cleeland Phone : 4947 3324 Email : <a href="mailto:sandy.cleeland@optusnet.com.au">sandy.cleeland@optusnet.com.au</a>	<b>ALL SNAKES</b>
<b>Treasurer</b> – Col Forster Phone : 4946 1713 0439 762 130 Email : <a href="mailto:col_forfrw@yahoo.com.au">col_forfrw@yahoo.com.au</a>	<b>Bat SLO</b> – Alix Cunnington Phone : 4945 91901 0459 415 590 Email : <a href="mailto:frwsecretary@gmail.com">frwsecretary@gmail.com</a>	Peter Basso (fee charged) 0439 478 140
<b>Secretary</b> – Alix Cunnington Phone : 4945 91901 0459 415 590 Email : <a href="mailto:frwsecretary@gmail.com">frwsecretary@gmail.com</a>	<b>Possum &amp; Glider SLO</b> – Barbara Adamson Phone : 4946 7572 0458 525 700 Email : <a href="mailto:barbaraadamson@bigpond.com">barbaraadamson@bigpond.com</a>	Kylee Gray (fee charged) 0424 456 254
<b>FRW COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>	<b>Frog SLO</b> – Kylee Gray Phone : 0424 456 254 Email : <a href="mailto:kyleegray@live.com.au">kyleegray@live.com.au</a>	<b>VETERINARY SURGERIES</b>
<b>Membership &amp; Merchandising Officer</b> – Lola Mudie Phone : 4946 1281 Email : <a href="mailto:melo@mackay.net.au">melo@mackay.net.au</a>	<b>BOWEN AREA – All Species SLO</b> – Carol Consentino Phone : 4946 1281	Whitsunday Vet Clinic Julie Ruddell 29 Sugarloaf Road, Cannon Valley 4946 1028
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Barbara Adamson Phone : 4946 7572 0458 525 700 Email : <a href="mailto:barbaraadamson@bigpond.com">barbaraadamson@bigpond.com</a>	<b>Newsletter Editor</b> – Alix Cunnington Phone : 4945 91901 0459 415 590 Email : <a href="mailto:frwsecretary@gmail.com">frwsecretary@gmail.com</a>	Proserpine Veterinary Surgery Bill Bowman/Fay Elder 11 Waite Street, Proserpine 4945 1878
Gerry O'Connor Phone : 4947 3180 Email : <a href="mailto:wallaby1943@gmail.com">wallaby1943@gmail.com</a>	<b>FRW Website</b> <a href="http://www.frw.org.au">www.frw.org.au</a>	Bowen Veterinary Clinic 156 Richmond Road, Bowen 4786 4864
	<b>FRW Animal Records</b> <a href="http://www.frw.org.au/AnimalRecords/AnimalRecords.php">http://www.frw.org.au/AnimalRecords/AnimalRecords.php</a>	Brolgas Rest Vet Clinic 36 Don Street, Bowen 4786 3166
<b>NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS/SPECIES LIASON OFFICERS</b>	<b>QPWS Jubilee Pocket</b> 4967 7355	<b>RSPCA Mackay</b> 4953 4265
<b>Koalas/Birds/Raptors/Echinda SLO &amp; Hotline Co-ordinator</b> – Jacqui Webb Phone : 4947 3308 0427 176 966 Email : <a href="mailto:Jacqui.webb@bigpond.com">Jacqui.webb@bigpond.com</a>	<b>DERM/EPA Hotline</b> – 1300 130 372	<b>RSPCA Hotline (including marine strandings)</b> 1300 ANIMAL (264 625)
	<b>KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST FRW NEWS ON FACEBOOK</b>	<b>POLICE</b>
<b>Koalas/Reptiles/Small Mammals SLO &amp; Food Supplies</b> – Linden Baker Phone : 4946 1198 Email : <a href="mailto:james.chisolm@bigpond.com">james.chisolm@bigpond.com</a>	<b>FRW Facebook</b> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/pages/FAUNA-RESCUE-WHITSUNDAYS-ASSOCIATION-INC/187303798354">http://www.facebook.com/pages/FAUNA-RESCUE-WHITSUNDAYS-ASSOCIATION-INC/187303798354</a>	Whitsunday 4948 8888 (24 hours)
		Proserpine 4945 1333 Bowen 4761 3500 Collinsville 4785 5377



### ADVANTAGES OF NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

Fast delivery! Colour pictures! Saves the environment! Saves FRW money!

Whilst the committee is happy to continue to send hard copies on request if you are happy to receive it by email instead please let me know at [frwsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:frwsecretary@gmail.com)

### KEEPING US UP TO DATE

All our members are valuable to us. If you should move, change your phone number or change your email address please don't forget to contact Lola Mudie (our membership officer) and update your details. This will ensure that you are kept up to date with all the latest FRW news.

TO:

**Fauna Rescue Whitsundays  
Association Inc.**



**HOTLINE :4947 3389**

**RETURN ADDRESS :**

**Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc.  
P.O. Box 806 Cannonvale 4802  
Hotline : 07 4947 3389**

